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Jennifer D. Adamson

Date: January 17, 2003

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of)

EIT DRENT ET AL)

Serial No. 09/804,891)

Filed March 13, 2001)

PROCESS FOR THE CARBONYLATION OF)
PENTENENITRILE)

Group Art Unit: 1621

Examiner: P. A. Zucker

March 29, 2002

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.116(b)

This Amendment is filed to put the finally rejected claims into better form for consideration on appeal. It accompanies the Appeal Brief for this Application. The Applicants respectfully request entry of the following Amendment.

IN THE CLAIMS

1. (Once Amended) A process for preparing a 5-cyanovaleric acid or its ester comprising reacting pentenenitrile with carbon monoxide and water and/or an alcohol in the presence of a catalyst system, comprising

(a) a source of Group VIII metal and

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